(1) Foreign Ministry...

the Afghan government and the Taliban," Azad added.

Meanwhile the National Unity Government (NUG) Chief Executive's Office said that government's stance is clear and those groups who fail to stop their war on the government will face the full wrath of the military forces.

"The National Unity Government's stance toward those Taliban who are ready for negotiations is clear and negotiations will take place but military operations will be continued against all terrorists groups [who fail to join the peace process]," said CEO spokesperson Mujibul Rahman Rahimi.

There were expectations that the second QCG meeting would have clear results and provide a venue and date for negotiations to start.

"However this time we are happy about the negotiations process but we should be cautious that the opposing sides do not waste time and take advantage of opportunities and do not deceive us," said Toryalai Ghiyas a current affairs analyst.

"If the Afghanistan government has a strong will to bring about actual peace, even if it is time consuming, people will wait to experience real peace," said Arifullah Pashton former

However after the second QCG meeting, members urged the Taliban to join the peace talks with the Afghan government as soon as possible but sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, told TOLOnews that before the third QCG meeting takes place, unofficial talks will be held with lower ranking leaders of the Taliban groups who are interested in peace negotiations. (Tolonews).

(2) Libya's Rivals ...

increased, splitting it into two governments and parliaments the internationally recognized one in the country's east, and an Islamist-backed one in the capital, Tripoli.

Each side is backed by an array of different militias. Amid the chaos, a Libyan affiliate of the Islamic State group has surged, claiming responsibility for a series of deadly attacks as it tries to expand its territory and take control of oil terminals and fields, the sole source of Libva's wealth.

In December, blocs from Libya's rival parliaments signed a U.N.brokered deal to form the unity government and established a Unity Presidential Council. The Tunisia-based council includes representatives from the rival parliaments and governments, as well as delegates from other factions. But other members of both the two main factions have rejected the U.N. plan. (AP)

(3) 2nd Quadrilateral ...

position from where future prospects could be drawn."

He said after the third meeting in Islamabad, the agenda of members, time and venue for the peace talks would also be announced.

He, however, said the Afghan government should imply effective diplomacy and ensure that the national interest was kept supreme during the vital talks.

Azad, Khirullah deputy spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), said the second QCG meeting conferred on roadmap and ways at reviving the peace talks with the Taliban. He said the meeting had agreed that groups refusing to shun violence would be dealt with an

Najib Paikan, political affairs experts, said if Pakistan acted sincerely, the process would bear

But Anwarul Haq Ahadi, head of the New National Front, said no major breakthrough was made in the second quadrilateral meeting and major problems remained. (Pajhwok)

(4) Abdullah Assures...

Investment Support Agency (AISA), Mohammad Qurban Haqjo, said: "This session reviews opportunities challenges and also it will map out a strategic plan for the next four years - where it will prioritize the demands of the private sector."

Meanwhile, the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ACCI) blamed the NUG for not supporting businessmen and said there has been corruption in government's

Both we and the president are happy that we earned 114 billion Afs [last year] but we should not forget that we used to earn 120\$ billion USD in income [during the previous government]. Mr. Ghani has taken this money from the people but he has not prevented the endemic corruption," said ACCI deputy chief Khan Jan Alokozay. (Tolonews)

(5) India ...

the earlier rule position demonstrates Government of India's commitment for taking steps to encourage trade between the two countries.

With this facilitation for the Afghan traders, it is expected that the bilateral trade between the two countries will further receive a boost. (PR)

(6) ANSF Fighting...

western city of Herat, he said. "The Taliban are putting all their efforts in," Sarjang said. "We have received some reinforcements and we will get more soon." The biggest problem for security forces is hit-andrun attacks by the Taliban, as when reinforcements move to one district they attack another, said Omar Zwak, a spokesman for the provincial governor. "They usually attack the weak places and exploit the gaps in our security," he said. In a sign of the growing violence engulfing Afghanistan, the Taliban are unleashing major attacks during the winter, a break from the past, when the cold weather typically prompted them to hold off from fighting.

The Taliban fight to take Helmand has echoes of the buildup to September's attack on the northern city of Kunduz, their biggest success in the -15year war, with Taliban forces picking off a series of districts around the provincial capital. (Reuters)

(7) Senate ...

gunmen set alight a girls' school in Ahmad Shah Baba Mena of Kabul, and killed the school guard.

Senator Mohammad Hassan Hotak said "earlier we would hear about schools set afire in provinces, but now such incidents have stated taking place in capital Kabul. If the officials concerned don't take urgent measures, it would concern all female students in Kabul."

"The enemies of the Afghans want to prevent girls from getting education. They could not prevent them from going to school by poisoning them and now they have opted to arson attacks to stop girls from going to school," he said.

Muslimyar said the house security commission had been tasked with summoning the Kabul police commander and the education minister to answer questions from lawmakers in this regard. (Pajhwok)

(8) Fresh Troops ...

A resident of Lashkargah, Abdul Tawab, said there was a clash last night in Lashkargah and people heard gunshots. He asked the government to resolve the security problems of the province.

A Taliban spokesman, Qari Yousuf Ahmadi, confirmed the clash and said at least three policemen were killed. (Pajhwok)

(9) Spike in ...

All warring parties must pay attention to the safety of civilians, he stressed.

The main threat to civilians was posed by landmines planted by militants, said a resident of the Shamir Kala area of Maiwand district, Abdul Rahman, who lost two family members to roadside bombings.

The insurgents knew the bombs

and | but they continued to plant the devices in utter disregard for civilian safety, he regretting, calling on both parties to the war to let people live in a peaceful environment.

Security checkpoints are located near residential areas, according to a resident of Khakrez district. Rockets fired during clashes often landed in civilian homes, he alleged. (Pajhwok)

(10) Germany Sees ...

refugee crisis, which has prompted deep divisions within the EU on how to share the burden of accommodating the influx.

Gulf Arab neighbors, including Saudi Arabia, accuse Iran of backing rebels in Yemen and pro-government militias in Syria. A mostly Arab coalition led by Saudi Arabia launched a military offensive against Iranbacked Houthi rebels in Yemen in March. (Reuters)

(11) Unity Govt....

and might lead to political crisis. He criticised the Independent Election Commission (IEC)'s performance and said: "People should know how the IEC will conduct a transparent election when we have no good experience from the commission's past performance."

He said fraudulent elections in 2014 conducted by the IEC had brought Afghanistan on the brink of a new civil war.

"It is responsibility of the IEC to predict and define possible fraud in elections and assure people of transparency in the process," Ahadi said.

He said the IEC had so far taken no step that could ensure clean elections. He worried the process would face the same fate as in

He added fraudulent elections could lead the country to a serious instability.

Ahadi said his party would support elections if the two electoral bodies took effective measures towards reforming the electoral regime.

'We suggest that both parliamentary and presidential elections should be conducted the same time because the national unity government is no longer credible," he said.

Days ago, President Ghani announced his government was ready to hold parliamentary and district council elections between summer and fall.

The IEC on Monday said it had set an Oct 15 date for the longdelayed parliamentary and district council elections.

The IEC had apparently not coordinated the election schedule with the unity government.

Reacting to the announcement, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dr. Abdullah Abdullah told a Cabinet meeting that the coming elections should be conducted by a new election commission.

"Election reform is an important issue that we have been discussing daily. The Afghans are still concerned at the flawed management of the previous elections," the CEO said on Monday.

The electoral reform, a major component of the unity government deal, has turned out to be a new challenge for the incumbent leaders. (Pajhwok)

(12) Afs 6 mln...

Nangarhar province about a year ago where salaries of instructors were snatched on way.

Several officials of Nangarhar University were then arrested on suspicion and sent to jail.

Although, security agencies have not yet concluded their investigation into Daikundi's incident but it is possible that other officials of the Education Directorate are also involved into the theft. (KP)

(13) 2,000 Paktika...

eight districts, according to acting Agriculture and Livestock director Sohbat Khan Kharotai said.

"The improved quality seeds were given to farmers for spring cropping," he said, adding the crop could be grown in two seasons --- autumn and spring in the province. (Pajhwok)

(14) Waziristan Refugees...

harmed mostly ordinary people, I system is unacceptable to us;

it should be uninstalled. Each refugee family should be given 100 kilograms of wheat flour, seven kilograms of pulses and 10 kg of cooking oil," he demanded. Umaruddin Wazir, another man from Waziristan, said they had been faced with a serious scarcity of food items and drinking water. As many as 30,000 refugees from NWA had been registered in Khost, of them 10,000 were living in the Gulan camp.

He warned of humanitarian crisis if the United Nations did not take effective steps with a sense of urgency to address the plight of the refugee

"We need so many things like flour, tea, ghee and other food items. By the same token, we are also in need of blankets and warm clothing," he added.

Mubarez Mohammad Zadran, the governor's spokesman, said they had already assessed the refugees' problems and were trying to divert donors' assistance to their needs.

"Refugee crises in other countries of the world, particularly Syria, have had a negative impact of international assistance to the Khost-based Waziristani families," he explained. (Pajhwok)

(15)Angry Rickshaw ...

roads had virtually been closed for them. At times, he alleged, police beat the drivers venturing into the areas.

"To our complaints, police respond with insult us and tell us to commit suicide. We don't know what kind of law it is. What should the jobless people do?" asked an angry protestor,

Meanwhile, Herat spokesman Abdur Rauf Ahmadi said they had met representatives of the protesting rickshaw drivers and some roads had been reopened for them.

This is the second protest of rickshaw drivers on the issue in the past one week in Herat. (Pajhwok)

(16)Afghan U-19...

departure for Bangladesh, the under19- crew appeared in a press conference with Afghanistan Cricket Board chief executive Shafiqullah Stanikzai in Kabul.

Stanikzai said the under19- team had been busy for the past one year playing practice matches at home and abroad and they were fully prepared to feature in the mega event.

He also said they had tried their best to select players based on their performance during practice matches. First 160 probables were selected, then 60 and then 33 and among 18 players were picked in the last stage, Stanikzai said.

He said the under19- side had played friendly matches with local clubs in India, Nepal and Zimbabwe in the lead up to the World Cup as part of their preparations.

"Our team has a much higher chance to win the World Cup because our under19-s had previously defeated Pakistan and Canada," he said.

Meanwhile, the cricket board and SPA construction company signed a contract to build a cricket stadium in southern Kandahar province with nearly a million US dollars assistance from India.

ACB chairman Nasimullah Danish and SPA director Samiullah Samandari singed the contract in Kabul. Danish said the cricket stadium in Kandahar was located in a strategic area and its construction would provide a standard sports venue for players in the southern region.

He also thanked businessman Mahmood Karzai for donating 20 acres of land for the cricket stadium to the cricket board. Danish said the stadium in Kandahar would be constructed on international standards with the capacity to accommodate nearly 8000 spectators. He said the project would be completed

in one year. (Pajhwok)

from Yangi Qala, Khwaja Bahauddin and Dasht Kala districts, a fruit trader in Taloqan,

(17)Lemon Production ...

Jamaluddin, said.

"Three years back, people didn't recognise Takhar lemons, but now the fruit has flooded local market. Takhar lemon is bigger in size and has a high quality,

He said traders purchased a kilo of lemon for 71 afghanis in fields and sold the same quantity for 86 afs in the local market.

An orchard owner in Dasht Qala district, Abdul Rahman, was happy over a higher income from the crop, saying he had been involved in the business over the past four years.

This year he sold 350 kg of lemon from his orchard and still nearly 42kg of lemon remained in trees for home consumption.

The government and NGOs should help lemon growers expand their gardening which is not labour intensive but only needs to be protected from chilling, a resident of Yangi Qala, Abdul Dayan, said.

According to agriculture officials, they plan to establish a lemon research farm in Talogan. (Pajhwok)

(18)Kandahar Cricket ...

in southern and southwestern provinces. According to the ACB officials, the project will bear a cost of over 800,000 US Dollars and will be sponsored by the government

of India.

The Indian government announced the approval of Kandahar cricket stadium construction in mid2014-. "Excellency, In your capacity as the Chief Patron of the Afghan Cricket Board (ACB), you will be happy to know that Government of India has just approved US\$ 1 million for construction of the Kandahar Cricket stadium at Aino Mena, Kandahar under the Small Development Project Scheme. This was a project that ACB has been closely following with us and we will be working with them to have the work started on this important project at the earliest," a letter issued by the Indian embassy in Kabul

"We have released that sports, both cricket and football, have united the country and enthused the youth as nothing else. We hope that this new facility, and the various initiatives taken by ACB would further popularize cricket and bring greater glory to the nation. We are encouraged by Afghan cricket team's recent performance in Zimbabwe," the letter added.

India has played a crucial role by participating in the rebuilding of Afghanistan following the fall of the Taliban regime in 2001.

Since 2002, the Government of India has committed around USD 2 billion dollars to the socio-economic rebuilding of the Afghan state and society in accordance with the development priorities of the Government and the people of Afghanistan. (KP)

(19)S. Korea ...

from loudspeakers across the border into the DPRK, which in turn, restarted its own propaganda broadcasts response.

Pyongyang scattered more than 1 million copies of anti-South Korea leaflets through air balloons in part of Seoul and some of the northern region close to the inter-Korean border.

Park said the military should maintain solid defense readiness over the DPRK's possible provocations, noting that the military should immediately retaliate against any DPRK provocations.

She instructed the military to make a thorough preparation for possible cyber attack from the DPRK.(Xinhua)

(20)Children on ...

forecast to drop to 20- degrees Celsius (°4-F) in Presevo in Serbia and 13- degrees (°9F) on the Greek border with Macedonia. (Reuters)

(21)Indian PM ...

ties with some regional parties, the party will not be in a position to muster majority in the assembly polls. But the party has not yet spelt out any pre-poll alliance. (Xinhua)

(22)Russia Key ...

Japan in May. "The international community is faced with various challenges, and Russia's constructive role is essential in resolving the problems," Kishida said, citing North Korea, Syria and the threat of terrorism. "In that context, political dialogue, especially at a political level, is indispensable."

Japan and Russia never signed a post-World War II peace treaty because of conflicting claims over islands north of the Japanese island of Hokkaido. The Soviet Union seized the four island groups in 1945.(AP)

(23)Britain Launches...

unregistered, illegal independent schools by the official education regulator, Ofsted. This follows the closure of three unregistered schools in Birmingham last month.

There will be a new tougher approach to prosecuting illegal unregistered schools, with a commitment to strengthen powers to close such schools.

There will also be a consultation on registering children who, like the Bethnal Green four, go missing from school.(Xinhua)

(24)Turkey Ends ...

Diyarbakir's historic neighborhood to root out militants who set up barricades, dug trenches and primed explosives to keep authorities away. A Turkish human rights group said as many as 162 civilians have died caught up in the fighting since August -26 of them in Silopi. The military says it has killed 136 militants in the town since the operations there began.

"There may be sporadic incidents, but all of the ditches (in Silopi) have been closed up, all of the barricades have been

lifted," Davutoglu said. A group of more than 1,000 academics last week issued a declaration denouncing the operations, triggering strong criticism from President RecepTayyipErdogan which in turn, prompted prosecutors to begin legal proceedings against the scholars over possible charges of propaganda on behalf of the PKK. Close to 20 academics were briefly detained for questioning - leading to an international outcry.(AP)

measures following the deadly attacks in Indonesia's Jakarta last week. In a lecture on Tuesday, Singapore's Home Affairs and Law Minister K Shanmugamwarnd that lack of focus on development and education by various governments as well as lack of strong commitment to multiethnicity has led to increasing terror threats in the region.

"The proliferation of charismatic preachers who advocate intolerance, violence; availability of such teachings on the Internet; the glorification of terror, violence, beheadings these international events, trends are fusing perfectly with fertile conditions in this region, to beget violence and terror," said Shanmugam

Therefore, Shanmugam said the Singapore government is planning to roll out a series of measures to safeguard racial and religious harmony.

"How our non-Muslims treat our Muslim brothers and sisters will decide what type of society we are. And if we behave with suspicion and negativity, then our Muslim population will be further pushed. The harmonious society that we have built will be at risk," Shanmugam added. (Xinhua)

(26)Pakistan PM ...

ner Muhammad Yunus of Bangladesh. The prime minister will also address about 100 business leaders on "Pakistan a land of business opportunities" at a breakfast meeting organized by the Pathfinder Group.

The prime minister will also participate in a WEF lunch of the Informal Gathering of World Economic Leaders (IGWEL) in which he will interact with around 80 top business and political leaders.(Xinhua)